

HO-1052
Wilson-Bennett House
1661 Woodstock Road
Private

Description:

The Wilson-Bennett House is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by four-bay frame structure with narrow novelty siding with corner boards on most walls and staggered-butt wood shingles on the turret and the gable ends and dormers. The roof has a gable on the front wing and is hipped elsewhere, with a ridge running northwest-southeast, and with a conical roof on the turret; it is all covered with asphalt architectural shingles. The northwest elevation has a projecting wing on the north half, with the turret at the north corner of the house. The windows in the house are one-over-one wood sash with plain head-cut trim. There is a porch that wraps around all four sides of the house, with turned wood posts and curved sawn brackets that have fan-patterned cutouts in them. Part of the southwest side of the porch has been enclosed. On the northeast elevation the east bay is set back from the plane of the other bays by several feet. The east-center bay east corner of the first story is angled, with a door and two-light transom set in this angle.

Significance:

The Bennett family acquired the 24-acre lot on which the Wilson-Bennett House sits in 1892 for \$3,200, and Wesley B. Bennett became a partial owner of the property in that year through inheritance. The Bennett's sold the property to Elizabeth Wilson of Baltimore in 1894 for \$3,600. At that time there was apparently a house on the property, but it burned in 1896. Wilson and the Bennetts were apparently related, though the exact connection is not known at this time, and she lived with Wesley and Mary W. Bennett, or they lived with her, much of the time. It is not clear whether this property was intended merely as an investment, or as a summer home. In any case, Wilson and the Bennetts sold the property and an additional 28 acres in 1903 for \$10,000. The increase in value probably reflects the replacement of the burned dwelling with the existing house. The house they built is a large Queen Anne, with masses that project and recede and are broken up with gables and dormers, a porch that wraps around all four sides, as well as varied materials. These were all picturesque techniques to break away from a static, symmetrical building that dominated the landscape to one that seemed to blend more into the landscape. This is a very good example of the building type and is one of the larger, and more grand, Queen Anne's in Howard County.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1052

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Wilson-Bennett House

other

2. Location

street and number 1661 Woodstock Road not for publication

city, town Woodstock ☒ vicinity

county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name J. M. & Nancy Springfield

street and number 1661 Woodstock Road telephone

city, town Woodstock state MD zip code 21163

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 888 folio 495

city, town Ellicott City tax map 10 tax parcel 41 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	2 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	0	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	2 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 0	

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1052

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

The Wilson-Bennett House is a 2 1/2-story, three-bay by four-bay frame structure with narrow novelty siding with corner boards on most walls and staggered-butt wood shingles on the turret and the gable ends and dormers. The roof has a gable on the front wing and is hipped elsewhere, with a ridge running northwest-southeast, and with a conical roof on the turret; it is all covered with asphalt architectural shingles. The northwest elevation has a projecting wing on the north half, with the turret at the north corner of the house. The windows in the house are one-over-one wood sash with plain head-cut trim. There is a porch that wraps around all four sides of the house, with turned wood posts and curved sawn brackets that have fan-patterned cutouts in them. Part of the southwest side of the porch has been enclosed. On the northeast elevation the east bay is set back from the plane of the other bays by several feet. The east-center bay east corner of the first story is angled, with a door and two-light transom set in this angle.

Description:

The Wilson-Bennett House is located at 1661 Woodstock Road, at the southeast corner of the intersection with Cavey Lane, about 1/2 mile southwest of Woodstock in north-central Howard County, Maryland. The house sits on a flat lot facing northwest toward Woodstock Road, and is set back from the road with a circular drive in front of it.

The house is a 2 1/2-story, three-bay by four-bay frame structure with narrow novelty siding with corner boards on most walls and staggered-butt wood shingles on the turret and the gable ends and dormers. The roof has a gable on the front wing and is hipped elsewhere, with a ridge running northwest-southeast, and with a conical roof on the turret; it is all covered with asphalt architectural shingles.

The northwest elevation has a projecting wing on the north half, with the turret at the north corner of the house. The turret has three windows on each story, on the northwest, north, and northeast sides. These and all of the other windows in the house are one-over-one wood sash with plain head-cut trim. The wing has a window centered on each story and in the gable end. The west bay is set back several feet from the plane of the front wing, with the main door on the first story, a window above, and a gabled dormer with window on the roof. There is a porch that wraps around all four sides of the house, with turned wood posts and curved sawn brackets that have fan-patterned cutouts in them. Part of the southwest side of the porch has been enclosed. There is an interior brick chimney, with a corbelled cap, set in the center of the hip near the ridge.

On the northeast elevation the east bay is set back from the plane of the other bays by several feet, and has paired windows on both stories, with a new skylight on the roof. The east-center bay has paired sash on both stories, and in a gabled wall dormer set on the hip. The east corner of the first story is angled,

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Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

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Name

Continuation Sheet

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with a door and two-light transom set in this angle. There is an interior brick chimney, with a corbelled cap, set between the east and east-center bays on the roof, just below the ridge. The north-center bay also has paired windows on both stories, with a new skylight on the roof. There is a semi-circular louvered vent between the two center bays, near the peak of the roof. The north bay is the turret.

The southeast elevation is one bay, with paired windows on the second story and in a gabled wall dormer set on the hip. The southwest elevation has a projecting three-sided, two-story bay in the west-center bay, with single sash on the angled walls and paired sash in the broader southwest wall and the gabled end of the roof. The three other bays have single sash on the second story. There is an interior brick chimney, with a corbelled cap, set between the west and west-center bays, near the ridge of the roof. The two south bays have new skylights on the roof.

There are two modern sheds on the property, to the southeast of the house.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1052

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates N/A Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1897-98

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary:

The Bennett family acquired the 24-acre lot on which the Wilson-Bennett House sits in 1892 for \$3,200, and Wesley B. Bennett became a partial owner of the property in that year through inheritance. The Bennett's sold the property to Elizabeth Wilson of Baltimore in 1894 for \$3,600. At that time there was apparently a house on the property, but it burned in 1896. Wilson and the Bennetts were apparently related, though the exact connection is not known at this time, and she lived with Wesley and Mary W. Bennett, or they lived with her, much of the time. It is not clear whether this property was intended merely as an investment, or as a summer home. In any case, Wilson and the Bennetts sold the property and an additional 28 acres in 1903 for \$10,000. The increase in value probably reflects the replacement of the burned dwelling with the existing house. The house they built is a large Queen Anne, with masses that project and recede and are broken up with gables and dormers, a porch that wraps around all four sides, as well as varied materials. These were all picturesque techniques to break away from a static, symmetrical building that dominated the landscape to one that seemed to blend more into the landscape. This is a very good example of the building type and is one of the larger, and more grand, Queen Anne's in Howard County.

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Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

summer home. In any case, Wilson and the Bennetts sold the property and an additional 28 acres in 1903 for \$10,000. The increase in value probably reflects the replacement of the burned dwelling with the existing house. The house they built is a large Queen Anne, with masses that project and recede and are broken up with gables and dormers, a porch that wraps around all four sides, as well as varied materials. These were all picturesque techniques to break away from a static, symmetrical building that dominated the landscape to one that seemed to blend more into the landscape. This is a very good example of the building type and is one of the larger, and more grand, Queen Anne's in Howard County. Unfortunately, we do not know who was responsible for its design and construction, but the front porch brackets are very similar to those on the Donovan House at 1690 Woodstock Road, and could possibly indicate a common source.

Wilson and the Bennetts sold the house to George Wannerwetsch, of Baltimore, and he probably intended to use it as a summer house, as well, but was foreclosed upon in 1904. The house passed hands frequently, not unusual with large summer homes that owners quickly discovered were expensive to maintain, until purchased by George Humphrey in 1919. Humphrey operated a store in Woodstock and owned quite a few parcels of land and buildings in the area. Whether he moved to this house, or rented it out to Baltimore families for the summer, is not known. Woodstock was known at this time as a summer get-away for Baltimoreans who could afford to, with families moving out for as little as a week or as long as the whole summer. Its location on the B. & O. Railroad is what made it a possible summer destination. The Hathaway family acquired the house and the original 24 acres in 1946 and retained it until 1978, but the property was reduced to a little over 3 acres over that time. The current owners have held it since that time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1052

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 3.2 A
Acreage of historical setting 24 1/2 A
Quadrangle name Sykesville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 10 parcel 41, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

11. Form Prepared by

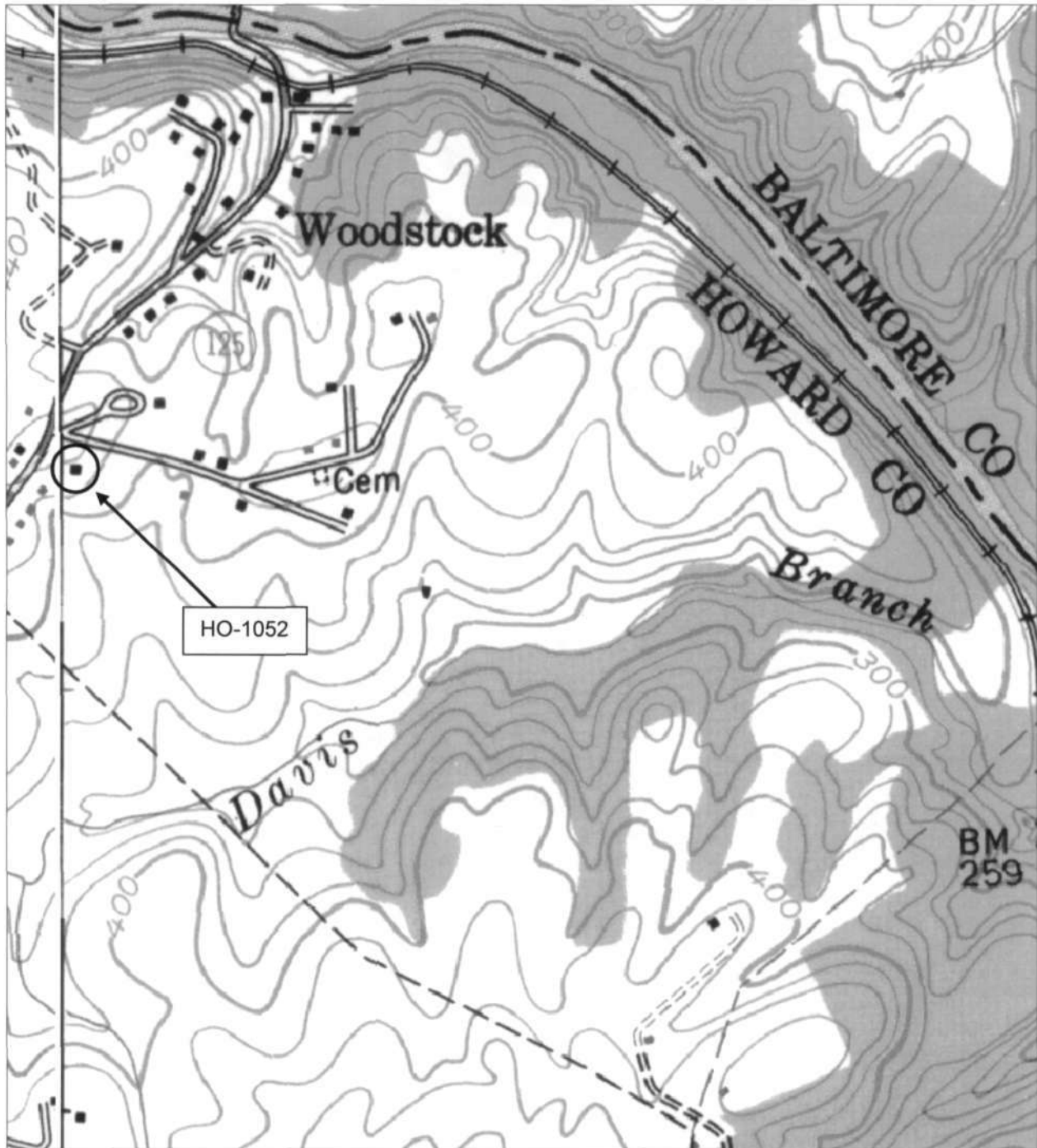
name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	November 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

HO-1052
Wilson-Bennett House
1661 Woodstock Road
Ellicott City Quad



HO-1052
Wilson-Bennett House
1661 Woodstock Road
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1052_2011-11-02_01
Northwest elevation

HO-1052_2011-11-02_02
Northeast elevation



HD-1052

Wilson-Bennett House

1661 Woodstock Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

Northwest elevation

1 of 2



HO-1052

Wilson-Bennett House

1661 Woodstock Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2011-11-02

MD SHPO

North east elevation

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